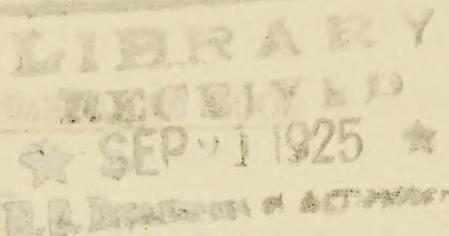


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Service
Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit

GOOD MANAGEMENT ELIMINATES EGG LOSSES

A booth exhibit showing the loss caused by fertile eggs; where they are produced; and how to produce infertile eggs.

Specifications

Floor space - - - - - 13' 2" front, 8'

Wall space - - - - - None. (2" deep.

Shipping weight - - - - 655 lbs.

Electrical Requirements - 110 volt A. C.

Current. 600 watts required for
small motor.

GOOD MANAGEMENT ELIMINATES EGG LOSSES

How It Looks

A big egg about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet long with an arrow run through a placard on top, constantly turning to show its sides, is the leading attraction of this booth exhibit. This egg, operated by a small motor, stands in the center of the booth. A part of the shell has been removed from each side so as to allow one to see the condition of the yolk.

One side represents a good infertile egg while the other side represents a fertile egg that is unfit for use since it shows a blood ring and other indications which never are seen in the infertile egg.

The left section is one large painting of a farm where chickens are allowed to "run wild," produce fertile eggs and receive no especial care. It represents poor management. The right section shows a painted scene of a modern up-to-date poultry farm with the roosters penned away from the hens. The arrow on the big egg points to these sections and the text on the small placard to which the arrow is attached refers to the two methods of management.

The center section shows photographs of fertile and infertile eggs kept at a temperature of 103 degrees F. for different lengths of time. The text accompanying the pictures gives the rules for producing better eggs.

What It Tells

It is estimated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture that by marketing fertile eggs which spoil quickly when exposed to heat, the egg producers of the United States lose \$15,000,000 a year. Serious egg losses are also caused by failure to gather eggs regularly, causing them to become broken in the nests or frozen during cold weather; by improper handling and infrequent marketing, and poor management in other respects.

This exhibit gives the rules for the production of better eggs. They are as follows:

1. Provide one nest for every four hens.
Keep the nests clean.
2. Gather the eggs twice daily.
3. Keep the eggs in a cool, dry, room or cellar.
4. Market the eggs at least twice a week.
5. As soon as the hatching season is over, sell, kill or confine all male birds.

Summer heat has the same effect on fertile eggs as the setting hen or incubator. When exposed to heat, fertile eggs quickly develop blood rings, spoiling the eggs for food or market. They are no longer fit for food after standing 24 hours at a temperature of 103° F. On the other hand, infertile eggs are still usable for food after seven days at that temperature.

The two series of illustrations show how fertile and infertile eggs appear after standing at a temperature of 103° F. for 24, 36, 48 and 72 hours and 7 days respectively.

The exhibit points out that the male bird does not increase egg production, but merely fertilizes the germ of the egg. While the male is important when hatching eggs are desired, he is equally undesirable when eggs are to be marketed and used for food.

Where to Get Information

The following publications may be obtained free of charge from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Farmers' Bulletin 1378- Marketing Eggs
Infertile Egg-Poster
Egg Preserving Leaflet.

